

"Providing the most basic of human needs... food, shelter & hope"

FISH • Friends In Service to Humanity of Northwestern Connecticut, Inc.

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Testimony for the Appropriations Hearing/Department of Housing/February 17, 2017

Senator Osten, Senator Formica, Representative Walker,

Representative Ziobron and Members of the Committee.

I would like to say that FISH, NWCT Homeless Shelter at 332 South Main Street, Torrington, CT has helped me out in so many ways. I am an 18 year Marine Corps Veteran who was going through a bad divorce. I was told about FISH and about the Veterans services and housing. Since being a resident in the Veterans dorm, I've received my benefits I was entitled to from the wonderful staff at FISH and with their hard work and dedication. I had nowhere else to turn to until I came to FISH. FISH welcomed me with open arms and made me feel like family. Without FISH I wouldn't know where to turn. I am very grateful for FISH and the staff!!

Please reconsider cutting the budget to homeless shelters, without the help of people such as those at FISH, homeless people will have nowhere else to go.

Christopher Nezlo FISH Shelts Resident